

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 7.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 9, 2000**. Hot and dry conditions continue in many parts of the state. Soil moisture was rated 23 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 35 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	95	90	98	89	3	5	20	59	13
	Dough	70	56	78	61					
	Dent	31	18	36	25					
Cotton	Squaring	96	92	96	94	0	5	14	63	18
	Setting Bolls	50	32	54	50					
Rice	Heading	6	3	9	16	0	4	9	77	10
Sorghum	Heading	60	33	59	53	0	6	19	69	6
Soybeans	Blooming	71	61	79	56	4	6	19	60	11
	Setting Pods	43	27	50	23					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvest	46	43	58	57	9	18	30	39	4
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	95	93	96	96	0	7	35	43	15
Watermelons	Harvested	23	12	44	35	0	31	13	55	1
Blueberries						0	6	21	49	24
Cattle						5	8	30	49	8
Pasture						17	16	35	31	1

County Agent Comments

“Dry weather and high temperatures are taking a toll on fields. Crops are in need of rain and pastures are quickly drying up.”

— Ricky Ferguson, Pontotoc County

“Scattered showers gave little relief over the weekend to pasture and row crops. Corn silage harvest has begun, but tonnage per acre will be low due to the severe hot and dry weather we have been experiencing.”

— Richard Hay, Amite County

“Sorghum midge spraying has been taking place. Not much cotton spray is going out except for aphid control in some areas. We need a rain to continue with a good overall crop progress.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower County

“We have reached the period of peak water use in our row crops. Extreme heat, coupled with the lack of rainfall, is creating stress on the crops. We are positioned for a good crop in most commodities at this point but rainfall through the remainder of the season will be the final determining factor.”

— Tim W. Pepper, Yazoo County

“Dry soils continue to be a problem in many fields. All crops and pastures need additional moisture.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton County

“We are beginning to get really dry. Heat this past week has been severe. One day it was 106 degrees. Pastures are beginning to hurt. Some late planted corn that I thought would make due to recent rains is now hurting for a rain. Early planted corn will make about one-third of what it should have produced.”

—Lee Taylor, Forrest County

Weather Summary from July 3, 2000 to July 9, 2000 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	96	65	81	82	-1	0.00	-0.96	0	3.74	96	81	87	0.36
Cleveland	96	68	83			0.00		0	2.18				
Tunica	96	71	84	81	+3	0.00	-0.77	0	4.67	105	81	94	0.23
Extreme/Average	96	65	83	82	+1	0.00	-0.98	0	3.53	105	81	90	0.28
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	95	60	80	79	+1	0.00	-0.99	0	3.65				0.31
Memphis	96	72	84	82	+2	0.00	-0.84	0	3.43				
Oxford	95	64	81	79	+2	0.00	-0.95	0	4.17				
Extreme/Average	96	60	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.97	0	3.80				0.31
3. Northeast													
Booneville	92	68	80	79	+1	0.00	-0.91	0	6.30				
Corinth	95	67	81	80	+1	0.00	-0.91	0	7.60				
Iuka	94	58	78			0.20		1	2.37				
Pontotoc	94	68	81	79	+2	0.00	-1.05	0	3.78	87	77	82	0.29
Tupelo	97	69	82	80	+2	0.00	-0.98	0	2.73				
Verona	96	69	83			0.00		0	1.04	97	78	88	0.34
Extreme/Average	97	58	81	80	+1	0.03	-0.95	0	3.97	97	77	85	0.29
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	99	66	84	82	+2	0.00	-1.16	0	1.54	101	90	95	
Greenwood	97	68	82	81	+1	0.09	-0.96	1	3.00				
Rolling Fork	96	56	81	81	0	0.58	-0.46	1	1.29	107	85	89	0.25
Stoneville	97	69	83	82	+1	0.00	-0.93	0	3.40	103	80	92	0.29
Yazoo City	97	64	82	82	0	0.06	-0.95	1	1.82				
Extreme/Average	99	56	82	82	0	0.15	-0.90	1	2.01	107	80	92	0.27
5. Central													
Carthage	98	65	82	81	+1	0.00	-1.06	0	1.79				
Jackson	99	68	83	81	+2	0.64	-0.33	1	5.06				
Winona	93	62	78	78	0	0.00	-1.05	0	2.44				
Extreme/Average	99	62	81	80	+1	0.21	-0.82	0	3.10				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-0.97	0	3.33				
Columbus	99	68	83			0.00		0	2.02				
State University	96	67	82	81	+1	0.00	-1.11	0	3.16	97	81	89	0.40
Extreme/Average	99	67	83	80	+3	0.00	-1.16	0	2.84	97	81	89	0.40
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	98	68	83			0.00		0	5.08	105	80	92	
Natchez	97	65	81	82	-1	0.30	-0.72	1	3.28				
Oakley	98	69	83	81	+2	0.00	-0.98	0	3.10	105	83	95	
Vicksburg	97	71	84			0.10		1	1.56				
Extreme/Average	98	65	83	81	+2	0.10	-0.95	1	3.26	105	80	93	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	100	67	83	82	+1	0.00	-1.14	0	2.56				
McComb	99	67	83	80	+3	3.64	+2.47	1	9.48				
Extreme/Average	100	67	83	81	+2	1.82	+0.68	1	6.02				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0	5.75				
Hattiesburg	101	68	84	81	+3	0.09	-1.07	1	4.57				
Laurel	100	66	83	81	+2	0.00	-1.11	0	3.94				
Meridian	98	66	81	81	0	0.04	-1.11	1	4.03				
Newton	101	64	82	80	+2	0.00	-1.02	0	3.29	96	75	86	0.28
Extreme/Average	101	64	83	81	+2	0.03	-1.14	1	3.93	96	75	86	0.28
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	103	66	83			0.00		0	3.94				
Biloxi AFB	100	75	86			E0.63		1	6.74				
Gulfport	99	72	85	83	+2	0.00	-1.41	0	2.72				
Pascagoula	99	66	82			0.01		1	6.00				
Poplarville	99	68	83	81	+2	0.00	-1.32	0	4.06				0.44
Extreme/Average	103	66	84	82	+2	E0.13	-1.24	0	3.57				0.44
State	103	56	82	81	+1	E0.24	-0.84	0	3.57	107	75	89	0.32

DFN = Departure from Normal.

"E" = Estimated Value.